



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FORMER STATE SOCIAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR INDICTED FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the former supervisor of the Division of Child Support Enforcement in the Joplin, Mo., office of the Missouri Department of Social Services was indicted by a federal grand jury today for possession of child pornography.

**Wesley George Thorn**, 44, of Carl Junction, Mo., was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Kansas City today with one count of possession of child pornography.

According to Graves, the indictment alleges that on or about February 8, 2002, **Thorn** possessed one or more films, videotapes, and other matter transported in interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including computer, which contained a visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and are not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Katharine Fincham. It was investigated by the Missouri Department of Social Services, the Joplin, Mo., Police Department, the Missouri State Technical Assistance Team, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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